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SULLIVAN: Here in Washington, the Reagan administration apparently has decided to take a considerably lower profile in Central America, at least for a while. More now from John McWethy.

MCWETHY: Pentagon sources say the White House has made a decision not to conduct any major military exercises in Central America, no high-profile shows of force until after the U.S. presidential election in November. The American military presence in Honduras, which was nearly 3,000 earlier this month, has now dropped below 1,000 and will stay there for the next five months, a decision based entirely on U.S. domestic political considerations. There will be, however, one small but important troop movement sometime in July. Pentagon sources say the 224th Aerial Exploitation Battalion, a specialized intelligence-gathering outfit of about 300 that was in Honduras this spring, will be returning. They do radio intercepts, nighttime surveillance and other types of intelligence-gathering activity. Military sources say the information they generated the last time was so valuable they are being brought back to help both El Salvador and the CIA army of contras that is fighting Nicaragua. U.S. officials say this kind of intelligence-gathering outfit is a perfect way to handle things for the next few months. It will further American interest in the region without creating any political waves back home for the president's re-election campaign. John McWethy, ABC News, the Pentagon.